

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /105 W
----- 129629

R 200951Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7117

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

UNCLAS RANGOON 1939

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TH BM

SUBJECT: THAI/BURMESE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING CONCLUDES

REF: RANGOON 1927

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CLOSE OF AUGUST 17
MEETING OF BURMESE-THAI HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE.

1. THE THIRD HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE REPRESENTA-
TIVES OF THE UNION OF BURMA AND THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND WAS HELD
AT RANGOON ON AUGUST 17, 1973. THE PARTICIPANTS WERE THE THAI
DELEGATION OF 9 MEMBERS LED BY HIS EXCELLENCY AIR CHIEF MARSHAL
DAWEE CHULLASAPYA, MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATIVES,
AND THE BURMESE DELEGATION OF 6 MEMBERS HEADED BY THE HON'BLE
U KYAW SOE, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO ACTED AS CHAIRMAN
OF THE MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURE PREVIOUSLY AGREED
UPON.

2. THE MEETING DEALT WITH A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS OF COMMON IN-
TEREST TO THE TWO COUNTRIES, SUCH AS, PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE
BORDER AREAS, FISHERIES AND SMUGGLING ALONG THE BORDER. THE TWO
SIDES AGREED ON A NUMBER OF PRACTICAL MEASURES TO GIVE EFFECT TO
THE STRENGTHENING OF BORDER SECURITY AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

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THEY HAVE ALSO AGREED TO REVIEW THE COMPOSITION OF THE VARIOUS

COMMITTEES UNDER THE EXISTING AGREEMENT.

3. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OF WARD CO-ORIDALITY AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND IN A SPIRIT OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS AND MEANINGFUL CO-OPERATION.

4. THE THAI DELEGATION EXPRESSED ITS THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF BURMA FOR THE HOSPITALITY EXTENDED, AND ASSURED THE BURMESE DELEGATION OF ITS DETERMINATION TO WORK FOR CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE SHOULD BE HELD IN BANGKOK. THE DATE OF THE MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER."

2. THAI DELEGATION RETURNED TO BANGKOK AUG 18.

3. SPEECH OF GUB FONMIN KYAW SOE AT CLOSING SESSION NOTED "HOW DELIGHTED WE HAVE BEEN TO HAVE YOU HERE" AND "HOW MUCH WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN," AND INCLUDED FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED FRANKLY AND SINCERELY IN ATMOSPHERE OF WARM FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING.

B. SOME MATTERS DISCUSSED NEED TO BE THRASHED OUT MORE THOROUGHLY BEFORE CONSENSUS REACHED, WHILE AGREEMENT OR AT LEAST BETTER UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN ACHIEVED ON SOME OF OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED.

C. TONE OF MEETING REFLECTED ARDENT DESIRE OF TWO COUNTRIES TO STRIVE FOR EVEN DEEPER FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING AND AUGURS WELL FOR FUTURE SUCCESS IN MUTUAL ENDEAVORS TOWARD ESTABLISHING STABLE CONDITIONS OF PEACE AND SECURITY ALONG BORDER AND TOWARD OPENING MORE AVENUES TO MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS COOPERATION IN VARIOUS FIELDS.

4. MARSHAL DAWEE'S CLOSING SPEECH THANKED GUB FOR "WARM RECEPTION AND GENEROUS HOSPITALITY" AND MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. MEETING WAS HISTORIC LANDMARK IN THAI-BURMESE RELATIONSHIP
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AND IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD, MADE POSSIBLE BY SPIRIT OF GOOD-WILL, FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL TURST PREVAILING THROUGHOUT MEETING.

B. EXPRESSED CERTAINTY THAT MATTERS DISCUSSED AND INITIATED AT MEETING WILL BECOME PART OF ALREADY FIRM FOUNDATION ON WHICH FUTURE BURMA-THAI COOPERATION WILL BE BASED.

C. SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT BY NEXT MEETING MOST OF OB-

JECTIVES SET AT THIS MEETING WILL HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

5. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN AS FOLLOWS:

A. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY AUG 20 NOTED THAT MEETING SIGNIFIED RENEWED DETERMINATION OF TWO GOVERNMENTS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR FRIENDSHIP, UNDERSTANDING, AND PEACE AND SECURITY IN BORDER REGIONS AND OBSERVED THAT IF NEIGHBORING PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS WISH TO MAINTAIN FRIENDSHIP, UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION THEY WILL HAVE TO WIN EACH OTHER'S TRUE GOODWILL AND SINCERE RESPECT ANFLWORK PERSEVERINGLY FOR SUPPRESSION OF CRIMES ALONG THE BORDER.

B. GUARDIAN COMMENTED AUG 19 THAT GOOD-NEIGHBORLINESS, FRATERNITY AND GOODWILL HAVE NEVER BEEN LACKING IN THAI-BURMA RELATIONS AND ADDED THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD NOT FIND IT DIFFICULT TO REMOVE "UNAVOIDABLE FACTORS" WHICH HAVE IN PAST IMPEDED PROMOTION OF GOOD RELATIONS. GUARDIAN URGED THAT SPIRIT OF GOOD-NEIGHBORLINESS AND MEANINGFUL CO-OPERATION PREVAILING AT MEETING SHOULD GUIDE BOTH NATIONS IN YEARS AHEAD.

C. BURMESE-LANGUAGE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY AUG 19 STATED "WE ARE REALLY HAPPY TO RENEW LASTING FRIENDSHIP THAT EXISTED BETWEEN BURMA AND THAILAND" AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT ALL EXISTING PROBLEMS WILL BE SOLVED EASILY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973RANGOO01939
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730827/aaaaatvu.tel
Line Count: 141
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: RANGOON 1927
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Dec-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI/BURMESE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING CONCLUDES
TAGS: PFOR, TH, BM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005